

# Do you want to BAN FRACKING?

Learn more about fracking and what it means for our community.



## What is fracking?

Hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking” is a modern drilling process used to extract natural gas from below ground, unlike anything Garrett County has ever seen in the past. Millions of gallons of water with toxic chemicals and sand are forced underground under high pressure, to release the natural gas from this region’s shale layer known as the **Marcellus shale**. Multiple vertical wells are drilled thousands of feet down, and then turned horizontally using unconventional technology to reach as far as **10,000 feet** like spokes on a wheel, from a single well pad.

Take our online **POLL!**



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One well requires up to **7 million gallons** of water to frack, requiring thousands of heavy truck trips to and from a well site. Roads are damaged and clogged with traffic while development is underway. Operations can last from 5 to 10 years, and each well pad can be drilled up to six times over the life of gas extraction. **It’s noisy, dirty, hazardous, and dangerous!**

Common concerns with drilling include the risk of contaminated water wells, air pollution from equipment leaks and well flaring, chemical spills, heavy diesel truck exhaust, negative impacts to farmlands and livestock, and displacement of our tourism economy that generates over **60% of the county tax revenue**. Mortgage lenders and insurance companies may deny loans and coverage for homes near gas drilling activities, and property values can **decrease more than 20%**.

Now, every household in Garrett County has the opportunity to say where they stand on fracking! Answer our online poll asking, “Do you want a ban on FRACKING?” Not online? You can also act today by using the “Clip & Mail” form below. Alert your friends and family to this important opportunity to voice their opinion.

## Wait! What about jobs, and the economy?

The gas industry touts **jobs** as a key selling point. There are no credible reports suggesting how many Maryland jobs would be created by fracking. In states with fracking, jobs go to experienced workers, many of whom are out-of-state, leaving locals with few, short-term employment opportunities that can fluctuate with gas prices. Local hires are **not guaranteed** and many positions require extensive travel and extended stays. Additionally, many gas leases are not owned by local, or even Maryland residents. Mineral rights are frequently sold and resold, pulling revenue out of Maryland and Garrett County where drilling would take place. An Economic Impact Study has yet to be conducted in Garrett County, so industry promises of an improved economy are without basis!

Still undecided? Visit our website below to learn more, or search online for non-industry sources on fracking.

Learn more by visiting [engageMMD.org](http://engageMMD.org)

Join our free online mailing list! Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube



# Do you want to BAN FRACKING?

Check One Box

YES  NO  NOT SURE

If YES, for these reasons. (check all that apply)

- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> water contamination | <input type="checkbox"/> noise pollution     | <input type="checkbox"/> explosions    | <input type="checkbox"/> Number of residents living in your household |
| <input type="checkbox"/> air pollution       | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial activity | <input type="checkbox"/> pipeline      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> truck traffic       | <input type="checkbox"/> transient workers   | <input type="checkbox"/> flaring       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> diesel emissions    | <input type="checkbox"/> chemical spills     | <input type="checkbox"/> all mentioned |   |

## Want to do more?

Send a personal letter or state your thoughts below on fracking.

### Clip and mail to:

Engage Mountain Maryland  
PO Box 81, Oakland, MD 21550

Email to: [EngageMountainMaryland@gmail.com](mailto:EngageMountainMaryland@gmail.com)

Comments here:

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